

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

50X1-HUM

INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria
SUBJECT Economic - Marble deposits
HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper
WHERE PUBLISHED Sofia
DATE PUBLISHED 16 Aug 1951
LANGUAGE Bulgarian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1951 ?
DATE DIST. 8 Nov 1951
NO. OF PAGES 2
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Vecherni Novini.

DESCRIBED BULGARIAN MARBLE DEPOSITS

There are about 50 marble deposits and quarries in Bulgaria, from which varied and high-grade marble is obtained

The best marble for statues lies in the Pirin Mountain, in the vicinity of Razlog. It is found in the shape of large blocks, is small-grained, and white. Statuary marble is also found in Blagovo Okoliya and in Berkovitsa Okoliya, but in the latter location it has black veins. A beautiful rose marble, which is used for sculpturing, is found in Berkovitsa Okoliya. Statuary marble is also found in Bachkovo, Asenovgrad Okoliya, and in Pazardzhik Okoliya.

In the vicinity of Slivitsa, Sofia Okoliya, there are deposits of brown marble, which is very decorative and is used extensively for construction. The balustrades of the official stairway of Sofia University are made of this marble, and it is used extensively in the construction of public buildings in Sofia.

There are occurrences of black marble with white veins in the vicinity of Glozhene, Teteven Okoliya. This is used for making marble articles such as ink-stands, lamps, desk ornaments, etc.

The occurrences of yellowish-brown marble near Kunino are used for refinishing buildings. The bright, cream-colored, almost pink, marble with blue veins, found near Arbanasi village, Turnovo Okoliya, is used for making different kinds of fountains.

Near Yablanitsa, Teteven Okoliya, silver gray marble is obtained. This marble has streaks of darker gray and is used for refinishing purposes.

The use of marble in construction is still inadequate, and in many cases its usage is very uniform. The Bulgarian architects still lack the talent for combining different colored marble and for seeking the most appropriate color combinations.

The method of quarrying marble today is not much different from that used in ancient times. The rock is cleared and severed with special steel wedges. The severed slab is shaped with manual instruments, and is brought to a conveyance by rollers. Some quarries today have compressors which simplify the severing of the slabs. Cranes are used more widely to simplify the loading and displacement of the marble slabs.

- 1 - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFICATION		CONFIDENTIAL		DISTRIBUTION									
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB									
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI									

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The processing of marble is accomplished to a large extent by manually operated tools, generally near the construction site itself.

To a large extent contemporary technique changed the methods for cutting and polishing marble. The marble mills have special cutting machines with which work can be done quickly and easily. Usually, a number of crudely shaped blocks are cemented and set on the machine. The 60 knives of the machine, each 5 meters long, 20 millimeters wide, and 0.5 millimeter thick, move horizontally back and forth, and are cooled constantly by running water. Steel powder is poured over them constantly and in 2 to 3 days and nights they cut and polish the marble blocks.

This half-finished product is not yet ready for use. It must be polished to an even greater degree to obtain a smoother and more brilliant surface. This polishing is accomplished by rubbing with stones which are one degree harder than the marble, during which process the crystals of the stone cross each other. The surface of the marble becomes so smooth that some of the light rays that fall on it are refracted and others are absorbed by the stone. Thus the marble becomes semitransparent.

Marble production is controlled by the "Kamenni Karieri" (Stone Quarries) State Enterprise, which supervises three modern stone mills. This enterprise succeeded in eliminating imports of marble by satisfying domestic needs. It also succeeded in exporting crude and processed marble, granite, and other stone material.

- E N D -

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL